

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4569

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 3636

PLEASE PASS TO H. BUTLER USGS ALBUQUERQUE SEISMOLOGICAL
LABORATORY ALBUQUERQUE NEW MEXICO 87115

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, IN

SUBJECT: SEISMIC RESEARCH OBSERVATORIES PROGRAM (SROP)

REF: CALCUTTA 0581

1. EMOFFS DISCUSSED THE PROBLEMS IN IMPORTING EQUIPMENT FOR
THE SROP STATION AT SHILLONG TODAY WITH DR. H. M. CHAUDHURY
AND MR. BASU OF THE INDIAN METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT (IMD).

2. THE FIRST CONSIGNMENT SENT BY USGS WAS PROPERLY HANDLED IN
THAT ADVANCE INFORMATION WAS SENT BY THE US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
(USGS) ON THE EQUIPMENT ENABLING THE IMD TO OBTAIN THE IMPORT
LICENSE IN TIME TO CLEAR THE EQUIPMENT THROUGH CUSTOMS WHEN IT
ARRIVED. THE SECOND CONSIGNMENT OF NINE BOXES WAS WRONGLY
MARKED TO THE CONGEN WHEN IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED TO THE
IMD. ADVANCE INFORMATION ON THE EQUIPMENT WAS NOT MADE
AVAILABLE TO THE IMD. CLEARING CUSTOMS HAD BEEN DELAYED
BECAUSE OF THIS.

3. FOR ALL FUTURE CONSIGNMENTS THE IMD WOULD LIKE TO HAVE
A DETAILED LIST OF EQUIPMENT AND THEIR ITEMIZED COST WELL IN
ADVANCE, PREFERABLY WITH A LEAD TIME OF THREE TO FOUR MONTHS
FOR EQUIPMENT WHICH WOULD PERMANENTLY STAY IN INDIA. THIS
SHOULD ENABLE IMD TO PROCURE THE IMPORT LICENSE, TRANSMIT THE
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LICENSE NUMBER TO USGUOSO EACH CONSIGNMENT CARRIES THE

NUMBER WHEN IT ARRIVES AT THE PORT OF ENTRY. HOWEVER, ALL EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS- DIRECTOR GENERAL OF OBSERVATORIES, INDIAN METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT, NEW DELHI; PORT-CALCUTTA.

4. NORMALLY FOR TEST EQUIPMENT THE SAME PROCEDURE AS NOTED IN ITEM 3 WILL BE REQUIRED; THAT IS, AN ITEMIZED LIST OF EQUIPMENT AND INDIVIDUAL COSTS ARE NEEDED IN ADVANCE. IMD WILL LET US KNOW IN THE NEXT TWO OR THREE DAYS WHETHER TEST EQUIPMENT WHICH NEEDS TO BE REEXPORTED AFTER USE AT SHILLONG CAN BE CLEARED IN A FEW DAYS AGAINST A SIMPLY DECLARATION MADE TO INDIAN CUSTOMS OR WHETHER THAT WOULD ALSO REQUIRE THE TIME CONSUMING PROCESS OF GETTING AN IMPORT LICENSE. PLEASE CABLE AN ITEMIZED LIST OF EQUIPMENT AND INDIVIDUAL COSTS ASAP.

5. UNLESS THERE IS AN EMERGENCY, THE EMBASSY PREFERS TO AVOID GETTING EQUIPMENT FOR THE SHILLONG STATION THROUGH THE CONSULATE SINCE EQUIPMENT IS INTENDED FOR AN INDIAN INSTITUTION AND NOT DIRECTLY FOR THE USE OF THE CONSULATE. WE HAVE IMPRESSED UPON THE IMD OFFICIALS THAT THEY TOGETHER WITH THE USGS SHOULD STREAMLINE THE PROCEDURES SO THAT THE EQUIPMENT IS IMPORTED IN AID OUTLINE YET EXPEDITIOUS WAY.

6. WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH CONGEN AND BUTLER ON HOW TO HANDLE THE TEST EQUIPMENT AS SOON AS WE GET WORK FROM IMD.
SAXBE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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